

STEPHEN APPLEBY.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 193.]

MARCH 5, 1840.

Mr. DOAN, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT :

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Stephen Appleby, having considered the same, report :*

That the petitioner represents that he was a volunteer for a year's service, under Captain John G. Forbes, New York State volunteers, in the late war with Great Britain ; that while at Sackett's Harbor, on the 25th day of January, 1813, he enlisted for during the war, under Lieutenant Richard Goodell, in Captain Canfield's company of the 23d regiment United States infantry ; that, after fatigue and exposure in the service, he was sent from Sackett's Harbor to Oswego, among the sick and wounded of Colonel Brown's regiment, and confined in the hospital for some time ; that he was in the battle at Sackett's Harbor, went down the St. Lawrence with General Wilkinson's army, was exposed to much fatigue and suffering, and, after lying out in the Chataugay woods, was attacked with convulsive fits, and was subsequently carried to the hospital at Plattsburg ; and that these fits continued to afflict him, more or less, for three years. He further represents that he was at the battle of Bridgewater, where he received a wound in his right hip by a part of a broken rail, which had been struck by a cannonball ; in consequence of which, he was confined in the hospital at Fort Erie, until they were carried down to Sackett's Harbor, where he was discharged in May, 1815 ; that, after his wound, he never was returned as fit for duty, and that the wound affected the joint and parts about it, producing permanent lameness. He represents that, before he went into the service, he was a healthy, robust man ; but, in consequence of the wound and the fits, he has ever since been disabled, and his general health much impaired. He states that, in consequence of his injuries, he obtained, by the aid of Captain Goodell, a discharge before the general discharge of the regiment ; and that the surgeon (Dr. Fuller) and his mate told him if he could wait until the general discharge, he should have a certificate as an invalid, which would entitle him to a pension : and that, for the want of such certificate, and a certificate of one of the officers under whom he served when wounded, (who are dead, or removed to parts unknown,) he has not been able to bring himself under the regulations required at the Pension Office, to obtain a pension.

The facts stated by the petitioner, as to his wound received in the battle of Bridgewater, are proved by the affidavit of Reuben Rouns, a private of the same regiment, and who was confined in the hospital with him ; and  
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also by that of Samuel Davis, a private in said company; and that he was subject to fits, appears from the same testimony, and also the testimony of Levi Appleby, the father of the petitioner, who also states that he had a good constitution, and was healthy before he went into the service; that he has not been healthy since, and that he has been constantly lame from the wound. Captain Canfield testifies to his enlistment and services, as far as he was knowing to them. His present disability, believed to be in consequence of injuries received in the service, and a wound in the hip at the battle of Bridgewater, is testified to by Doctors David Ringsbury and Isaac Morrell, two reputable physicians; and the degree of disability is stated to be one-half. The papers in support of the claim are all duly authenticated.

The committee are of opinion that the petitioner is entitled to relief, and report a bill accordingly.

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